Security Message

U.S. Consulate General Casablanca August 1, 2014

Potential Protest Sunday August 3rd

In response to recent developments in Gaza, several associations have called for a protest march in Casablanca to voice support for the Palestinians. A large turnout is expected.

The demonstration is expected to begin at the intersection of Boulevard El Feda and Boulevard Bouchaib Doukkali at approximately 10:00 hours on Sunday, August 3rd. The route and end time for the protest march are presently unknown, however we anticipate a police presence during the entire event.

Though we expect the demonstration to be peaceful, even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. If you should happen upon a traffic jam, be aware that it could be related to the demonstration and we recommend that you try to turn around or take another route before becoming ensnarled. If you find yourself in the midst of a demonstration, we recommend maintaining a low profile and departing the area.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Morocco enroll in the Department of State's <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)</u>. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate. U.S. citizens are also encouraged to visit our website at: http://morocco.usembassy.gov.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Internet website at travel.state.gov where the Worldwide Caution, Country Specific Information, Travel Warnings, and Travel Alerts can be found. Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on Facebook as well. In addition to information on the internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, from other countries, on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Friday, Eastern Time (except U.S. federal holidays).

The U.S. Embassy in Rabat is located at 2 Avenue Mohamed El Fassi and can be reached at 0537-76-22-65. Consular Services are located at the U.S. Consulate General in Casablanca at 8 Blvd. Moulay Youssef. American Citizens Services can be reached at 0522-26-71-51 during business hours. After hours, please call 0522-26-45-50 or 0661-13-19-39.